

REMARKS

The claims remaining in the present application are Claims 1-39. Claims 7, 11, and 22 have been amended. Claim 39 has been added. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

SPECIFICATION

The title of the Specification has been amended. Applicants request review and acceptance of the amended title.

35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1, 7, 11, 22, 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112. Claim 7 has been amended to correct an informality. Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 7 complies with 35 U.S.C. §112. Claim 11 has been amended to change its dependency to Claim 9 to correct an informality. Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 11 complies with 35 U.S.C. §112.

Claim 22 has been amended to clarify that the communication interface device does not have a firewall. Applicants do not intend that this amendment narrow the scope of Claim 22. Applicants note that the Examiner assumed that Claim 22 should have read “a communication interface device that makes a network connection with a firewall” (emphasis added). This is not Applicants’ intended meaning, as discussed above. Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 22 complies with 35 U.S.C. §112.

35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 4-6, 10, 12-13, 15-20, 22-24, 32-33, and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being unpatentable over Nessett et al. U.S. Pat. No. 5,968,176 (hereinafter, Nessett) and Microsoft computer Dictionary and Newton's Telecom Dictionary. The rejection is respectfully traversed, for the reasons below.

Claim 1 recites:

A system for providing a firewall to a communication device, said system comprising:

a first device comprising a hardware implemented firewall, said first device coupled to a host device that is coupled to said communication device for establishing a connection to a network;

logic residing in said system to allow said communication device to establish a connection to the network provided said first device is in said system, wherein said first device allows said host device to connect to said network using said communication device that does not itself have a firewall that is accepted by the network; and

said system configured to cause data transferred by the communication device to be processed by said firewall.

Claim 1 recites a limitation of a (first) device having a hardware implemented firewall. Claim 1 further recites a limitation of logic that allows a communication device to connect to a network provided the device having a hardware implemented firewall is in the system. Moreover, Claim 1 recites a limitation that "said first device allows said host device to connect to said network using said communication device that does not itself have a firewall that is accepted by the network." Thus, the firewall device allows a communication device that does not itself have a firewall that is accepted by the system to be used to connect to the network.

Nessett fails to disclose a device having a firewall that allows a communication device to establish a connection to a network even though the communication device does not have a firewall that is accepted by the network, as claimed. Nessett discloses a system in which a network interface card may have security features. However, the Applicants have claimed that it is a device other than the claimed communication device that has the firewall and that the communication device itself does not have a firewall that is accepted by the network.

Moreover, Applicants respectfully assert that Nessett fails to disclose a device that allows a communication device to establish a connection to a network provided that the device is in the network. Thus, the first device, as claimed, is not merely a device with a firewall in the system, but it is a device for which a connection cannot be made to the network absence its presence. Applicants have positively recited a limitation of "logic residing in said system to allow said communication device to establish a connection to the network provided said first device is in said system." Applicants respectfully assert that Nessett fails to teach this and other limitations of Claim 1.

For the foregoing rationale, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 is not anticipated by Nessett. As such, allowance of Claim 1 is earnestly solicited.

Claim 22 recites, in part:

A method of providing security in a network having a communication interface device that makes a network connection without a firewall in said communication interface device, said method comprising:

a) allowing a connection to said network to be established when using said communication interface device only if a firewall device comprising a hardware implemented firewall is coupled to a host device (emphasis added);

Claim 36 recites:

A firewall device for providing a hardware implemented firewall to a communication device for establishing a network connection, said firewall device comprising:

a hardware implemented firewall;

a data interface for receiving and sending data;

first logic for allowing said network connection to be established using said communication device if said firewall device is coupled to said communication device, wherein said firewall device allows a connection to said network using said communication device even if said communication device does not have a firewall that is accepted by the network (emphasis added).

For reasons discussed in the response to Claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 22 and 36 are not anticipated by Nessett. As such, allowance of Claim 22 and 36 earnestly solicited.

Claims 4-6, 10, 12-13, 15-20, 23-24, and 32-33 depend from Claims 1 and 22, which are believed to be allowable for the above reasons. As such the rejection of Claims 4-6, 10, 12-13, 15-20, 23-24, and 32-33 has been overcome and their allowance is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 2, 8, 9, 11, 21, 25, and 34

Claims 2, 8, 9, 11, 21, 25, and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nessett in view of Gleichauf et al. U.S. Pat. No. 6,324,656 (Gleichauf). The rejection is respectfully traversed, for the reasons below. The limitations in Claims 2, 8, 9, 11, 21, 25, and 34 are neither disclosed nor suggested in Nessett or Gleichauf, alone or in their combination.

For the reasons discussed in the response to Claim 1, Nessett fails to teach or suggest “logic residing in said system to allow said communication device to establish a connection to the network provided said first device is in said system, wherein said first device allows said host device to connect to said network using said communication device that does not itself have a firewall that is accepted by the network”, as claimed. Gleichauf fails to remedy this deficiency of Nessett in that Gleichauf fails to teach or suggest this claimed limitation. As such, the combination of Nessett and Gleichauf fails to teach or suggest the limitations of Claim 1. As Claims 2, 8, 9, 11, and 21 depend from Claim 1, these claims are believed to be allowable.

For the reasons discussed in the response to Claim 1, Nessett fails to teach or suggest “allowing a connection to said network to be established when using said communication interface device only if a firewall device comprising a hardware implemented firewall is coupled to a host device,” as claimed in Claim 22. Gleichauf fails to remedy this deficiency of Nessett in that Gleichauf fails to teach or suggest this claimed limitation. As such,

the combination of Nessett and Gleichauf fails to teach or suggest the limitations of Claim 22. As Claims 25 and 34 depend from Claim 22, these claims are believed to be allowable.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 2, 8, 9, 11, 21, 25 and 34 are neither shown nor rendered obvious by the Nessett or Gleichauf references, alone or in combination.

Claim 3

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nessett in view of Gleichauf, and in further view of Servi, U.S. Patent No. 5,278,904 (hereinafter, Servi). The rejection is respectfully traversed, for the reasons below. The limitations in Claim 3 are neither disclosed nor suggested in Nessett, Gleichauf, or Servi, alone or in their combination.

For the reasons discussed in the response to Claim 1, Nessett fails to teach or suggest "logic residing in said system to allow said communication device to establish a connection to the network provided said first device is in said system, wherein said first device allows said host device to connect to said network using said communication device that does not itself have a firewall that is accepted by the network", as claimed. Gleichauf fails to remedy this deficiency of Nessett in that Gleichauf fails to teach or suggest this claimed limitation. Servi also fails to remedy this deficiency of Nessett in that Servi fails to teach or suggest this claimed limitation. As such, the combination of

Nessett, Gleichauf, and Servi fails to teach or suggest the limitations of Claim 1. As such Claim 3, which depends from Claim 1, is believed to be allowable.

Claim 7

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nessett in view of Servi. The rejection is respectfully traversed, for the reasons below. The limitations in Claim 7 are neither disclosed nor suggested in Nessett or Servi, alone or in their combination.

For the reasons discussed in the response to Claim 1, Nessett fails to teach or suggest “logic residing in said system to allow said communication device to establish a connection to the network provided said first device is in said system, wherein said first device allows said host device to connect to said network using said communication device that does not itself have a firewall that is accepted by the network”, as claimed. Servi fails to remedy this deficiency of Nessett in that Servi fails to teach or suggest this claimed limitation. As such, the combination of Nessett and Servi fails to teach or suggest the limitations of Claim 1. As such Claim 7, which depends from Claim 1, is believed to be allowable.

Claim 14

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nessett in view of Dempsey, U.S. Patent No. 5,826,048. The rejection is respectfully traversed, for the reasons below. The limitations in Claim 14 are

neither disclosed nor suggested in Nessett or Dempsey, alone or in their combination.

For the reasons discussed in the response to Claim 1, Nessett fails to teach or suggest “logic residing in said system to allow said communication device to establish a connection to the network provided said first device is in said system, wherein said first device allows said host device to connect to said network using said communication device that does not itself have a firewall that is accepted by the network”, as claimed. Dempsey fails to remedy this deficiency of Nessett in that Dempsey fails to teach or suggest this claimed limitation. As such, the combination of Nessett and Dempsey fails to teach or suggest the limitations of Claim 1. As such Claim 14, which depends from Claim 1, is believed to be allowable.

Claim 26

Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nessett in view of Gleichauf, in further view of Watson, U.S. Patent No. 5,475,839. The rejection is respectfully traversed, for the reasons below. The limitations in Claim 26 are neither disclosed nor suggested in Nessett, Gleichauf, or Watson, alone or in their combination.

For the reasons discussed in the response to Claim 1, Nessett fails to teach or suggest “allowing a connection to said network to be established when using said communication interface device only if a firewall device comprising a hardware implemented firewall is coupled to a host device,”

as claimed in Claim 22. Gleichauf fails to remedy this deficiency of Nessett in that Gleichauf fails to teach or suggest this claimed limitation. Watson fails to remedy this deficiency of Nessett in that Watson fails to teach or suggest this claimed limitation. As such, the combination of Nessett, Gleichauf, and Watson fails to teach or suggest the limitations of Claim 22. As Claim 26 depends from Claim 22, Claim 26 is believed to be allowable.

Claims 27 and 28

Claims 27 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nessett in view of Gleichauf, in further view of Fischer, U.S. Patent No. 5,475,826. The rejection is respectfully traversed, for the reasons below. The limitations in Claims 27 and 28 are neither disclosed nor suggested in Nessett, Gleichauf, or Fischer, alone or in their combination.

For the reasons discussed in the response to Claim 1, Nessett fails to teach or suggest “allowing a connection to said network to be established when using said communication interface device only if a firewall device comprising a hardware implemented firewall is coupled to a host device,” as claimed in Claim 22. Gleichauf fails to remedy this deficiency of Nessett in that Gleichauf fails to teach or suggest this claimed limitation. Fischer fails to remedy this deficiency of Nessett in that Fischer fails to teach or suggest this claimed limitation. As such, the combination of Nessett, Gleichauf, and Fischer fails to teach or suggest the limitations of Claim 22. As Claims 27 and 28 depend from Claim 22, Claims 27 and 28 are believed to be allowable.

Claims 29, 30 and 35

Claims 29, 30 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nessett in view of Gleichauf, in further view of Daniel, U.S. Patent No. 4,823,345. The rejection is respectfully traversed, for the reasons below. The limitations in Claims 29, 30, and 35 are neither disclosed nor suggested in Nessett, Gleichauf, or Daniel, alone or in their combination.

For the reasons discussed in the response to Claim 1, Nessett fails to teach or suggest “allowing a connection to said network to be established when using said communication interface device only if a firewall device comprising a hardware implemented firewall is coupled to a host device,” as claimed in Claim 22. Gleichauf fails to remedy this deficiency of Nessett in that Gleichauf fails to teach or suggest this claimed limitation. Daniel fails to remedy this deficiency of Nessett in that Daniel fails to teach or suggest this claimed limitation. As such, the combination of Nessett, Gleichauf, and Daniel fails to teach or suggest the limitations of Claim 22. As Claims 29, 30, and 35 depend from Claim 22, Claims 29, 30, and 35 are believed to be allowable.

Claim 31

Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nessett in view of Gleichauf, in further view of Uceda-Sosa et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,496,840. The rejection is respectfully traversed, for the reasons below. The limitations in Claim 31 are neither disclosed nor suggested in Nessett, Gleichauf, or Uceda-Sosa, alone or in their combination.

For the reasons discussed in the response to Claim 1, Nessett fails to teach or suggest “allowing a connection to said network to be established when using said communication interface device only if a firewall device comprising a hardware implemented firewall is coupled to a host device,” as claimed in Claim 22. Gleichauf fails to remedy this deficiency of Nessett in that Gleichauf fails to teach or suggest this claimed limitation. Uceda-Sosa fails to remedy this deficiency of Nessett in that Uceda-Sosa fails to teach or suggest this claimed limitation. As such, the combination of Nessett, Gleichauf, and Uceda-Sosa fails to teach or suggest the limitations of Claim 22. As Claim 31 depends from Claim 22, Claim 31 is believed to be allowable.

Claim 37

Claim 37 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nessett in view of Fischer. The rejection is respectfully traversed, for the reasons below. The limitations in Claim 37 are neither disclosed nor suggested in Nessett or Fischer, alone or in their combination.

For the reasons discussed in the response to Claim 1, Nessett fails to teach or suggest, “first logic for allowing said network connection to be established using said communication device if said firewall device is coupled to said communication device, wherein said firewall device allows a connection to said network using said communication device even if said communication device does not have a firewall that is accepted by the network,” as claimed in Claim 36. Fischer fails to remedy this deficiency in

Nessett. As such, the combination of Nessett and Fischer fails to teach or suggest the limitations of Claim 36. As Claim 37 depends from Claim 36, Claim 37 is believed to be allowable.

Claim 38

Claim 38 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nessett in view of Servi. The rejection is respectfully traversed, for the reasons below. The limitations in Claim 38 are neither disclosed nor suggested in Nessett or Servi, alone or in their combination.

For the reasons discussed in the response to Claim 1, Nessett fails to teach or suggest, "first logic for allowing said network connection to be established using said communication device if said firewall device is coupled to said communication device, wherein said firewall device allows a connection to said network using said communication device even if said communication device does not have a firewall that is accepted by the network," as claimed in Claim 36. Servi fails to remedy this deficiency in Nessett. As such, the combination of Nessett and Servi fails to teach or suggest the limitations of Claim 36. As Claim 38 depends from Claim 36, Claim 38 is believed to be allowable.

New Claim

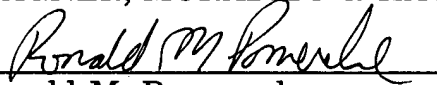
Claim 39 has been added. It is respectfully submitted that Claim 39 is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art. As such, allowance of Claim 39 is earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above listed amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejected Claims is requested. Based on the arguments and amendments presented above, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1 - 39 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, allowance of Claims 1 - 39 is solicited.

Should the Examiner have a question regarding the instant amendment and response, the Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

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